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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add or amend the claims to read as follows, and cancel without prejudice or disclaimer to resubmission in a divisional or continuation application claims indicated as cancelled:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a plurality of nodes reports from a ~~subset~~ plurality of reporting nodes of a wireless communication system wherein a nodes report of the plurality of the nodes reports includes ~~one or more~~ node communication related parameters of ~~said subset of~~ other nodes of the wireless communication system which are collected by a reporting node; and

detecting a hidden node by analyzing the ~~one or more~~ node communication related parameters of nodes of the wireless communication system based on the plurality of the nodes reports; ~~and~~

~~detecting a hidden node based on the analyzing~~.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 comprising:

sending a request to generate the nodes report.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein analyzing comprises:

detecting an unreported node; and

activating a hidden node protection on a reporting node.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein analyzing comprises:

detecting a signal strength below or equal to a threshold; and

activating a hidden node protection mechanism on a reporting node.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein activating a hidden node protection mechanism comprises:

enabling a request-to-send\clear-to-send (RTS\CTS) control mechanism.

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6. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein activating a hidden node protection

   mechanism comprises:

      sending a subset of power adjustment commands to a subset of nodes based on the

   nodes report.

7. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein activating a hidden node protection

   mechanism comprises:

      enabling a request-to-send\clear-to-send (RTS\CTS) control mechanism.

8. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein activating a hidden node protection

   mechanism comprises:

      sending a subset of power adjustment commands to a subset of nodes based on the

   nodes report.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Canceled).

11. (Canceled).

12. (Canceled).

13. (Canceled).

14. (Canceled).

15. (Canceled).

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16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a receiver to receive a plurality of nodes reports from a subset plurality of reporting nodes of a wireless communication system, wherein a nodes report of the plurality of reports includes one or more node communication related parameters of other nodes of the wireless communication system which are collected by a reporting node; and

a hidden node detector to detect a hidden node in a wireless communication system by detection of an unreported node in at least one nodes report of the plurality of nodes reports based on said report generated from one or more communication related parameters of said subset of nodes collected at a reporting node.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, comprising:

a transmitter to send a request to generate the received nodes report.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, comprising:

a controller to activate a hidden node protection mechanism.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the one or more node communication related parameters includes a signal strength indicator and the hidden node detector is able to detect a hidden node by analyzing the signal strength indicator.

20. (Canceled.).

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim [[20]] 18, wherein the hidden node protection mechanism comprises a request-to-send\clear-to-send (RTS\CTS) control mechanism.

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22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim [[20]] 18, wherein the hidden node protection mechanism comprises a transmitted power control mechanism that includes a subset of desired transmitted power levels related to the subset of nodes.

23. (Canceled).

24. (Canceled).

25. (Canceled).

26. (Canceled).

27. (Canceled).

28. (Currently Amended) A wireless communication system comprising:

a station to generate a nodes report of a subset plurality of other nodes of the wireless communication system wherein the node reports include report includes one or more communication related parameters of said subset plurality of nodes whose signals received at the station; and

an access point to detect a hidden node in the wireless communication system by detection of an unreported node in at least one node report of the plurality of node reports received from one or more stations of the wireless communication system by analyzing said communication related parameters of the nodes report.

29. (Original) The wireless communication system of claim 28, wherein the access point is able to activate a hidden node protection mechanism to protect the station from transmissions of the hidden node.

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30. (Currently Amended) The wireless communication system of claim 28, wherein said communication related parameters comprises a signal strength indicator of the subset plurality of nodes and the access point is able to detect a hidden node by analyzing a said signal strength indicator.

31. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication system of claim 28, wherein the access point is able to detect a hidden node by detection of an unreported node at the nodes report.

32. (Original) The wireless communication system of claim 29, wherein the hidden node protection mechanism comprises a request-to-send\clear-to-send (RTS\CTS) control mechanism.

33. (Original) The wireless communication system of claim 28, wherein the hidden node protection mechanism comprises a transmitted power control mechanism that includes a subset of desired transmitted power levels related to the subset of nodes.

34. (Canceled).

35. (Canceled).

36. (Canceled).

37. (Canceled).

38. (Canceled).

39. (Currently Amended) An article comprising:

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a storage medium, having stored thereon instructions, that when executed, result in:

receiving a plurality of nodes reports from a ~~subset~~ plurality of reporting nodes of a wireless communication system wherein a nodes report of the plurality of the nodes reports includes ~~one or more~~ node communication related parameters of ~~said subset of~~ other nodes of the wireless communication system which are collected by a reporting node; and

detecting a hidden node by analyzing the ~~one or more~~ node communication related parameters of nodes of the wireless communication system based on the plurality of the nodes reports~~; and~~

~~detecting a hidden node based on the analyzing.~~

40. (Original) The article of claim 39 wherein the instructions when executed, result in:

sending a request to generate the nodes report.

41. (Original) The article of claim 39 wherein the instructions when executed, result in:

detecting an unreported node; and

activating a hidden node protection on a reporting node.

42. (Original) The article of claim 39 wherein the instructions when executed, result in:

detecting a signal strength below or equal to a threshold; and

activating a hidden node protection mechanism on a reporting node.